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TO:

Commissioner for Patents

Attn: Examiner Anthony D. Tugbang

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM:

Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF:

10873.0805USD1

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Title of Document Transmitted:

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Applicant:

HIRAMOTO et al.

Serial No.:

10/688147

Filed:

October 16, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3729

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S/N 10/688147

JUL 1 4 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

HIRAMOTO et al.

Examiner:

Anthony D. Tugbang

Serial No.:

10/688147

Group Art Unit:

3729

Filed:

October 16, 2003

Docket No.:

10873.0805USD1

Title:

MAGNETORESISTIVE ELEMENT, METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING

THE SAME, AND METHOD FOR FORMING A COMPOUND

MAGNETIC THIN FILM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 14, 2004.

By: Celign Oarman

Name: Celvn Oakman

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed April 15, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification being on page 2 of this paper

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 3 of this paper

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.